

Message Text

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ACTION OIC-02

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FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 895

INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

UNCLAS COLOMBO 3290

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, EAID, CE

SUBJ: 145TH SESSION OF COLOMBO PLAN COUNCIL

REF: (A) COLOMBO 3271, (B) 2-WAY MEMO, JUNE 27, 1978 (NOTAL)

1. THE 145TH SESSION OF THE COLOMBO PLAN COUNCIL MET AT 10:00 A.M. ON JULY 20, 1978. THE U.S. WAS REPRESENTED BY AMBASSADOR WRIGGINS AND ECON OFFICER SPILLANE.
2. AFTER ADOPTION OF THE REVISED PROVISIONAL AGENDA (ITEM I -- TRANSMITTED BY REF B TO DAVID LEVINTOW, DAA/ASIA), THE COUNCIL ACCEPTED ITEMS II, III, VII, VIII, IX, AND X WITHOUT SIGNIFICANT COMMENT. THERE WAS SOME DISCUSSION ON THE FOLLOWING AGENDA ITEMS:
 - IV. THE COUNCIL ADOPTED THE MOTION BY THE BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER THAT ONLY THE SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS (RATHER THAN THE FULL REPORT) OF THE WORKING GROUP BE SUBMITTED TO THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (SEE COLOMBO PLAN DOCUMENT C 78/24 OF 6 JUNE 1978, TRANSMITTED BY 2-WAY MEMO OF JUNE 12).
 - V. AFTER SOME DISCUSSION, THE COUNCIL AGREED TO AGAIN CONSIDER THE QUESTION OF A MORE DETAILED STUDY OF INTERNATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMS AT THE 27TH CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING IN WASHINGTON. SEVERAL REPRESENTATIVES SUGGESTED THAT SUCH A STUDY MIGHT BE DONE EVERY TWO OR THREE YEARS RATHER THAN ANNUALLY.

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- VI. THE JAPANESE REPRESENTATIVE POINTED OUT THAT THE OVERSEAS ECONOMIC COOPERATION FUND (OECF) WAS AN AGENCY OF THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT AND NOT AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION, AND SUGGESTED IT WOULD NOT BE SUITABLE TO INVITE THE OECF TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING (SEE REFTEL A.) FOLLOWING THE JAPANESE STATEMENT, THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT WITHDREW THE PROPOSAL.

XI. UNDER OTHER BUSINESS THE COUNCIL SET THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1978, AS THE TENTATIVE DATE OF THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING. THE COUNCIL'S PRINCIPAL INFORMATION OFFICER POINTED OUT THE NEED FOR DATA ON TECHNICAL COOPERATION BY THE JULY 31 DEADLINE IN ORDER FOR THE BUREAU STAFF TO COMPLETE THE ANNUAL REPORT IN TIME FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COUNCIL AT ITS NEXT MEETING, WHICH WILL BE THE LAST MEETING BEFORE THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETS IN WASHINGTON.

3. AMBASSADOR BRIEFLY COMMENTED ON SUBSTANTIAL PREPARATIONS FOR CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING UNDERWAY BY LEVINTOW AND ASSOCIATES AND URGED COUNCIL MEMBERS TO PRESS THEIR GOVERNMENTS TO MEET DATA DEADLINE.

4. COMMENT: EMBASSY GRATEFUL FOR OBVIOUS SUPPORT BY LEVINTOW AND OTHERS AND HOPES U.S. DATA CAN BE HERE BY JULY DEADLINE.
WRIGGINS

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